

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of The Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a flexible helical spring formed from a filament having a rectangular cross-sectional profile, having a plurality of coils, each having an edge along which is formed at least one barb that engages surrounding tissue.
2. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one barb is proximally facing.
3. (Original) The implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the barb faces radially outward from the spring.
4. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a flexible helical spring having at least one barb having a rounded contour that engages surrounding tissue.
5. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the at least one barb has a sharpened point configured for engaging tissue.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Previously presented) An implant device as defined in claim 1 wherein the spring comprises a plurality of coils, each having a proximally facing edge along which is formed a plurality of barbs.

8. (Previously presented) A tissue implant device configured to resist migration in tissue comprising a flexible helical spring having at least one barb that engages surrounding tissue wherein the spring is formed from a plurality of materials each having different moduli of elasticity.

9. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the spring is formed from metal.

10. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 9 wherein the metallic material is stainless steel.

11. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the moduli of elasticity of the spring varies along its length.

12. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 1 wherein the spring is formed from a filament that has been etched from a flat sheet of material and wound into a spring configuration.

13. (Original) An implant as defined in claim 12 wherein at least one barb is formed into the filament during the etching process.

14. (Previously presented) A method of forming a tissue implant device comprising:
forming a ribbon having at least one projecting barb shape on an edge of the ribbon in a sheet of material by a photochemical etching process;
separating the ribbon formed from the sheet of material; and
wrapping the ribbon form into a helical coil shape, plastically deforming the ribbon so that it retains the coil shape with at least one projecting barb along the edge.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 14 wherein at least one barb is formed along an edge that will be proximally facing after the ribbon is wrapped into a coil shape.

17. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 14 wherein a plurality of barb shapes are formed along an edge of the ribbon form so that the resultant coil ribbon has a plurality of projecting barbs along one edge of the coil.

18. (Previously presented) A method of forming a tissue implant device as defined in claim 14 further comprising forming a plurality of ribbons in a single sheet of material by photochemical etching process.

19-21. (Withdrawn)

22. (New) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 9 wherein the spring is formed from a nickel titanium alloy.

23. (New) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 2 wherein the barb projects proximally away from the edge of the spring.

24. (New) A tissue implant device as defined in claim 3 wherein the barb projects radially outward from the edge of the spring at an angle inclined in the proximal direction.